

# FISCAL NOTE

## HB 2033 - SB 2110

April 8, 2005

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Enacts a volunteer pilot project known as *Sorry Works! Program* under the Medical Malpractice Remedies and Proceedings statutes where participating hospitals and health care practitioners acknowledge and apologize for mistakes in patient care, offer fair settlement to those patients; establishes a seven member Sorry Works Committee to develop and implement the program.

### ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

#### Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant

**Other Fiscal Impact – If malpractice premium rates are reduced, the TennCare program and the state health insurance plan could experience more moderate cost increases in the long term. If malpractice awards were decreased, some persons in need of medical care could become eligible for TennCare.**

Assumption:

- Some increase in state expenditures, which is not estimated to be significant, for the Departments of Health and Commerce and Insurance for their participation on the Sorry Works Committee.

### CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director